

MINUTES OF MEETING BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS, July 29, 1940

The Board of Public Works met in the office of the State Treasurer, State Office Building, Annapolis, Maryland, Monday, July 29, 1940.

Present:           Herbert R. O'Connor, Governor  
                  J. Millard Tawes, Comptroller  
                  Hooper S. Miles, Treasurer

Mr. Walter N. Kirkman, Director of the Department of Budget and Procurement was also present.

COMMISSION ON BAY TRANSPORTATION:

The Governor submitted bill of The Daily Record for \$30.00 covering printing of 100 copies of the report of the Commission on Bay Transportation, requesting that payment be made from any funds available for this purpose. Also bill in amount \$15.50 for 150 copies.

It was agree to pay thisbill out of the Contingent Fund of the Board of Public Works.

COMMISSIONERS OF PRACTICAL PLUMBING:

Mr. Kirkman called attention to the fact that the lease for the space for the Commissioners of Practical Plumbing, 203 Old Town Bank Building, Baltimore, expires August 31, 1940 and that it is desired to renew the lease to cover 640 square feet of space at an annual rental of \$540.00.

Mr. Kirkman recommended that the lease be renewed on these terms and the Board approved the recommendation.

COMPTROLLER:

The Board authorized refunds of taxes and other moneys paid to the State in error in the following cases:

Calvert Court Company	\$3.99	)	due to reduced
Cecil Construction Company	6.38	)	assessments after
Washington Maryland Publications, Inc	7.58	)	payment of tax
Griffith & Turner Co.	9.34	)	had been made.
W. Randall Compton	41.50	)	Recordation Tax
Baltimore Bank for Cooperatives	11.00	)	paid in error.
Thomas Knox	3.00	)	
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The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board a file of correspondence which the Comptroller has had with the State Auditor and The State Law Department relative to the claim of the State against the Estate of John Hershberger, deceased, former Register of Wills for Frederick County. According to the State Auditor's report of March 14, 1939, the amount due was \$897.11.

The claim was referred to The State Law Department by the Comptroller and after considerable investigation and correspondence, the State Law Department recommended to the Comptroller that the account be written off as uncollectible because of the opinion of that department that it would be impossible to effect collection of the account, either from the bonding company or from the Estate of Mr. Hershberger. It was stated by The State Law Department that the claim consists, to a considerable extent, of tax on amounts classed as improper allowances which were made by the Register of Wills in the filing of accounts, but that the irregularity was due mostly to the fact that Orders had not been secured from the Orphans' Court approving the allowances, whereas if the Court had been petitioned to pass the Orders, it is thought that approval would have been given.

Under the circumstances, the Board approved the recommendation of The State Law Department that the account be written off as uncollectible.

CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT:

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board a letter from the Conservation Department in which the Department requested authority to sell, at a price of \$65.00, a small power boat called "Thomas", which boat is quite old and in bad condition, and has not been in shape for use by the Commission for some months.

The Board approved the request for authority to sell the boat.

CROWNSVILLE STATE HOSPITAL:

Mr. William P. Gundry, member of the Board of Managers of Crownsville State Hospital, appeared before the Board of Public Works and submitted a tabulation of bids which had been received for the erection of a new Laundry Building at the institution. The bid of the W. E. Bickerton Construction Company was the lowest bid received and through a resolution of the Board of Managers of the hospital, request was made of the Board that the Hospital be authorized to enter into a contract with W. E. Bickerton Construction Co. in the amount of \$52,883.00 for the work.

The Board approved the request of the institution.

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Mr. Gundry also took up with the Board a proposal received for laundry equipment, which proposal had been obtained by the Department of Budget and Procurement.

Upon request of the Hospital Board, recommended by Mr. Kirkman, authority was given to accept the bid of the American Laundry Machinery Company in the amount of \$16,369.00, for the purchase and installation of laundry equipment, as set forth in the plans and specifications prepared by James R. Edmunds, Jr., architect (formerly Crisp and Edmunds), and the office of James Posey, consulting engineer.

EASTERN SHORE STATE HOSPITAL:

Mr. Kirkman stated that bids had been received covering the work connected with the sewage system of the Eastern Shore State Hospital with the system of the Town of Cambridge, Maryland, but that bids were somewhat in excess of the money available for the cost of the work. Mr. Kirkman stated that some consideration has been given to obtaining some assistance from the Works Progress Administration and he thought it would be possible to get this assistance which, with the amount of money available from the State, would take care of the cost of the work, and possibly save some money for the State.

Mr. Kirkman promised to get more information and report further to the Board.

LEASES:

Mr. Kirkman submitted for approval lease for space for the University of Maryland, at 412-420 Holliday Street, Baltimore, for a period of three and one-half months at a rental of \$57.00 per month, the space to be used in connection with the Japanese Beetle Control Work.

The Board approved the lease.

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Mr. Kirkman took up with the Board the question of leasing space for the Maryland Agricultural Society which in the past has been housed in the Sherwood Building, Charles Street and North Avenue, in conjunction with the Farm Bureau. The Farm Bureau leases space at a yearly rental of \$2,000.00, and the Maryland Agricultural Society contributes \$640.00 for the space used by it.

It was agreed that the arrangement for the space should be continued on the same basis as in the past, and that the Maryland Agricultural Society should not enter into any separate lease with the owners of the Sherwood Building for the use of space at that building.

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Mr. Kirkman called attention to the fact that the lease of the Board of Mental Hygiene, Professional Building, Baltimore, expires October 1, 1940. The Board is now using 904 square feet at an annual rental of \$1,000.00. The rental is low and the space is satisfactory, and Mr. Kirkman recommended that the Board authorized the making of a renewal lease under the present terms.

Mr. Kirkman's recommendation was approved.

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Mr. Kirkman discussed with the Board the problem of space for the State Health Department, 2411 N. Charles Street, Baltimore, the lease for which expires October 1, 1940.

The Board felt that the matter should be investigated thoroughly, especially in view of the fact that it has been proposed to make a lease for ten years for the property. Mr. Kirkman is to look into the possibility of continuing the present lease for another year or two, with the possibility that other arrangements would be made with the owners, for the Department, in the meantime.

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Mr. Kirkman stated that he had a request from the Unemployment Compensation Division that it be authorized to make a new lease for the space being used by that Department at Salisbury, Maryland, which space contains 1400 square feet and carries an annual rental of \$1,200.00, which rental is less than that paid under the lease which will soon expire.

The Board approved the making of a new lease.

#### MARYLAND AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY:

See - Leases, these minutes.

#### MARYLAND STATE POLICE:

Mr. Kirkman mentioned to the Board the fact that the Maryland State Police had recently disposed of some property which it felt was of no further use and that under the Budget and Procurement Act, and regulation of the Board of Public Works, State Agencies should first obtain authority for disposition of property. Mr. Kirkman stated that he had discussed this matter with the Maryland State Police department and that the Department was under the impression that the laws relating specifically to the Department gave them the authority to dispose of this property. The matter was discussed with Mr. Wm. L. Henderson, Deputy Attorney General, and it was his belief that the Budget and Procurement Act supercedes the law relating to the Maryland State Police in the matter of acquisition and disposal of property belonging to the Department.

Mr. Kirkman stated that the Department expressed its willingness to cooperate with the Department of Budget and Procurement and the Board of Public Works, and that anything done was done in the belief that the Department was acting under the law relating to it.

#### MARYLAND TRAINING SCHOOL FOR BOYS:

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board a letter from Henry Powell Hopkins, architect, relative to the installation of stokers for the boilers at the Maryland Training School for Boys. Bids had been requested from several contractors but only one contractor submitted a bid.

Upon recommendation of Mr. Kirkman, the Board withheld authorizing the acceptance of that one bid, pending some investigation by Mr. Kirkman as to whether it is possible to obtain other prices for the work.

MILITARY DEPARTMENT:

Annapolis Armory

The members of the Board confirmed informal authority heretofore given through the Secretary to the Adjutant General, authorizing him to accept the bid of Costanze Construction Company in the amount of \$93,333.00, this bid being the lowest of eleven bids received for the construction of the new Annapolis Armory, on the site in the rear of the State Office Building, in accordance with plans and specifications prepared by Messrs. Hopkins and Fowler.

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The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board a letter from Benjamin Michaelson relative to the site for the Annapolis Armory, offering some additional land adjacent to the Germantown School lot, but was not considered because of the action of the Board in having decided upon a location for the Armory on the lot in the rear of the State Office Building.

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The Board considered the request of General Reckord for additional funds to take care of expenses incurred by camp training this year, because of the fact that the period of training has been extended to three weeks rather than the usual two weeks. Consideration was given as to the possible sources from which money could be made available and it seems the only course open is the amount available to the Military Department in the August 15, 1940 Installment of the General Bond Issue of 1939.

A statement as set forth in Item #4 of Mr. Kirkman's letter of July 16, 1940, shows that \$17,000.00 of the \$55,000.00 would be held in reserve for emergency. It is thought that this additional camp training expense could be properly taken from the amount of \$17,000.00 to be held in reserve for emergency, as the additional camp training is in the nature of an emergency and something which was not contemplated when the Budget for the Military Department for the current fiscal year was approved.

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Mr. Kirkman submitted a statement showing the proposed use of the \$55,000.00 available to the Military Department in the August 15, 1940 Installment of the General Bond Issue of 1939.

The Board approved the request that the money be used for the following purposes: -

- 1- \$15,000 to comply with the request of the War Department that better protection be given to arms and ammunition in the armories and storerooms under the control of the Military Department.
- 2- \$10,000 for normal repairs to armories.
- 3- \$ 8,000 for the purchase of a plat of ground at Camp Ritchie.
- 4- \$ 5,000 for equipment for armories.
- 5- \$17,000 to be held in reserve for emergency.

MORGAN STATE COLLEGE:

Mr. Kirkman reported relative to the complaints in connection with the structural difficulties in the new Library Building at Morgan State College. The officials of Morgan State College assure Mr. Kirkman that the general and sub-contractors inspected the building and have agreed to make the necessary repairs.

THE PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD:

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board a communication from the Pennsylvania Railroad, accompanied by plans covering work which the company desires to do in connection with the construction of two spans for Bear Creek Bridge, No. 9.51, Sparrows Point Branch. The additional work to be done at this time is in line with the work which was approved by the Board earlier this year.

The request of the Company for authority to proceed with the work in accordance with the plans submitted was approved.

REGISTER OF WILLS: - Cecil County

Mr. Kirkman took up with the Board a request received from the County Commissioners of Cecil County that the office equipment in the office of the Register of Wills be given by the State to the County because the County has recently completed a new Court House and has entirely furnished the office of the Register of Wills.

The Board approved Mr. Kirkman's recommendation that the County be allowed to keep the old equipment in the office of the Register of Wills.

ROSEWOOD STATE TRAINING SCHOOL:

Mr. P. B. Hopper McFeely, Secretary of Rosewood State Training School, and Mr. John L. Eiser, of Eiser & Akers, consulting engineers, appeared before the Board and submitted a tabulation of bids received from contractors covering construction of Water System for Fire Protection and Improvements and Alterations to Power Plant for the School.

Mr. McFeely submitted a letter addressed to the Board requesting that the institution be authorized to accept the bid of Charles T. King, Inc. in the amount of \$113,205.00 for doing the work.

The Board approved the request of the School.

ST. MARY'S FEMALE SEMINARY:

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board a communication from Mr. Bernard Evander, architect, relative to the work of construction of the new gymnasium at St. Mary's Female Seminary, in which it is desired to accept certain Alternates in the original proposal of the contractor which would result in a reduction in the amount of the contract by \$1,226.00, leaving the net amount of the contract \$77,371.00.

The Board approved acceptance of these Alternates by the Board of Trustees of the School.

STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION: - State Teachers College, Frostburg.

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board a letter from Mr. John L. Dunkle, President of the State Teachers College at Frostburg, relative to the use of excess fees in the current fiscal year for the purchase of certain equipment, and other expenditures, totaling \$6,996.00.

Mr. Kirkman discussed this matter with the Board and suggested that it should be possible to make available to the Teachers Colleges any excess fees resulting from enrollments exceeding that contemplated at the time of preparation of the Budget and on which appropriations to the colleges out of special funds are made in the Budget. As to whether it is necessary to make the purchases mentioned in Mr. Dunkle's letter of July 23, 1940, the Board was not willing to pass upon this matter until further information could be obtained.

Mr. Kirkman was requested to go into the matter with Mr. Dunkle and report further to the Board.

STATE BOARD OF MENTAL HYGIENE:

See: Leases, these minutes.

STATE GAME AND INLAND FISH COMMISSION:

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board a communication from Mr. E. Lee LeCompte, State Game Warden, in which authority was requested from the Board for the purchase of a tract comprising about 35 acres, adjoining land purchased from R. U. Darby in Washington County, the purchase to be made in conformance with the Pittman-Robertson Act, the tract being known as Indian Spring Wildlife Demonstration Area and the purchase to be made from Frank Shives at \$5.00 per acre.

The Board authorized the purchase of this additional land.

STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH:

See: Leases, these minutes.

STATE DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY:

Mr. Kirkman stated that the State Department of Forestry had advised him that they were able to make purchases of equipment to be used in connection with recreational areas for less than the amount the Board was advised sometime ago would cost \$26,050.03, and that it was desired to use the balance for the purchase of additional small tools and equipment.

The Board approved the request that the balance be used as stated.

STATE INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENT COMMISSION:

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board several letters from Mr. Charles E. Moylan, Chairman of the State Industrial Accident Commission, relative to office space for the Commission and the State Accident Fund. Mr. Kirkman, who had gone into this matter fully, advised the Board relative to it.

After due consideration the Board agreed to approve a lease to be prepared covering the space in the Equitable Building and the Calvert Building, as outlined in Mr. Moylan's letter of July 25, 1940, the lease to be submitted on the usual form and to be recommended by the Director of the Department of Budget and Procurement.

UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION DIVISION:

See: Leases, these minutes.

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND:

See: Leases, these minutes.

WORKMAN'S COMPENSATION INSURANCE: - Data

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board a statement covering a survey made by Mr. Kirkman, showing the various State Agencies and the situation relative to Workman's Compensation Insurance carried on employees.

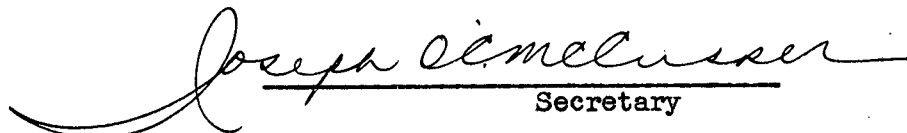
The Board felt that nothing could be done at this time by that Board, but that proper consideration could be given the matter at the time of preparation of the next Budget, if it should be decided that coverage should be provided for State employees engaged in hazardous occupations.

STATE BOARD OF LAW EXAMINERS:

Mr. Kirkman Submitted to the Board a statement showing the estimated receipts and expenses of the State Board of Law Examiners for the fiscal year 1940 in the amount of \$11,350.00.

The Statement was approved by the Board.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

  
Secretary